

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

14. (Amended) A pluripotent embryonic-like stem cell, derived from non-embryonic or postnatal animal cells or tissue, capable of self-renewal and capable of differentiation to cells of any of endodermal, ectodermal and mesodermal lineages, genetically engineered to express a gene or protein of interest.

15. (Amended) A method of producing a genetically engineered pluripotent embryonic-like stem embryonic-like~~stem~~ cell comprising the steps of:

- (a) transfecting pluripotent embryonic-like stem cells, derived from non-embryonic or postnatal animal cells or tissue, capable of self-renewal and capable of differentiation to cells of any of endodermal, ectodermal and mesodermal lineages, with a DNA construct comprising at least one of a marker gene or a gene of interest;
- (b) selecting for expression of the marker gene or gene of interest in the pluripotent embryonic-like stem cells;
- (c) culturing the stem cells selected in (b).

Complete Listing of Claims in Application U.S.S.N. 09/668,508

Claims 1-13 (cancelled)

14. (presently amended) A pluripotent embryonic-like stem cell, derived from non-embryonic or postnatal animal cells or tissue, capable of self-renewal and capable of differentiation to cells of any of endodermal, ectodermal and mesodermal lineages, genetically engineered to express a gene or protein of interest.

15. (presently amended) A method of producing a genetically engineered pluripotent embryonic-like stem ~~embryonic-like stem~~ cell comprising the steps of:

(a) transfecting pluripotent embryonic-like stem cells, derived from non-embryonic or postnatal animal cells or tissue, capable of self-renewal and capable of differentiation to cells of any of endodermal, ectodermal and mesodermal lineages, with a DNA construct comprising at least one of a marker gene or a gene of interest;

(b) selecting for expression of the marker gene or gene of interest in the pluripotent embryonic-like stem cells;

(c) culturing the stem cells selected in (b).

16. (original) A genetically engineered pluripotent embryonic-like stem cell produced by the method of claim 15.

17. (original) The stem cell of claim 16 which is a human cell.

Claims 18-32 (cancelled)